Appendix 6

THE THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE POLLOCK RESOURCES IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

November 30-December 4, 1998
Tokyo, Japan

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

Final, December 4, 1998 1200

Representatives from the six Parties to the Convention for the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea met in Tokyo, Japan, and continued their cooperative efforts to conserve and manage pollock stocks in the Convention Area.

The Third Annual Conference held under terms of the Convention took place November 30-December 4, 1998. It was chaired by Mr. Yasuo Takase of Japan. The six countries who are members of the Convention – the People's Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Poland, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America – agreed on conservation and management measures and reviewed scientific information on the status of pollock stocks. The Scientific and Technical Committee agreed on a plan of work for 1999.

Based on the report of the Scientific and Technical Committee, the Parties agreed that data was insufficient to directly determine the biomass of the pollock stocks in the entire Aleutian Basin. Several of the Parties, including Korea, Japan, the People's Republic of China, and the Republic of Poland, strongly proposed the establishment of an Allowable Harvest Level (AHL) for 1999, considering the difficulties of their fishermen and scientific data available for the Bogoslof stocks. After a thorough discussion by the Parties, taking into consideration that the moratorium did not contribute to the stock recovery in the Central Bering Sea for the past six years, the Annual Conference did not reach consensus to set the Allowable Harvest Level for the commercial fishery for pollock in the Central Bering Sea during 1999. In such a situation, under the procedure set out in Article VII-2 and Annex Part 1 of this Convention, the Allowable Harvest Level for 1999 was set at zero. Therefore in 1999, "there shall be no directed fishing on the Aleutian Basin pollock stock." On the other hand, based upon the terms of the Convention, trial fishing by vessels of the Parties to the Convention will be permitted in 1999, under the terms and conditions that were established by the Annual Conference.

The Parties reached consensus that when a commercial fishery resumes, it will be conducted utilizing individual national quotas (INQ's). The Parties also reached consensus that management measures will be further developed by correspondence through diplomatic channels for discussion at the next Annual Conference.

There was also considerable discussion on accepting requests for observer status by non-Party States and other International Organizations. Interim measures for such requests were agreed. The Parties will continue their work on transparency issues through a working group on procedures.

The Parties agreed that further discussion was required on matters related to the conservation and management of living marine resources (in particular marine mammals) in relation to pollock stocks in the Convention Area.

The Parties also agreed to hold a workshop on pollock stock structure, in particular using several types of DNA analysis.

The Republic of Korea invited the Parties to convene the Fourth Annual Conference in October or November 1999, in Korea. The People's Republic of China extended a preliminary invitation to host the Fifth Annual Conference in 2000.

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES
IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

NOVEMBER 30
TOKYO, JAPAN

OPENING STATEMENT
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a great honor for us to participate in the 3rd Annual Meeting. On behalf of the Chinese delegation, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Japan for organizing and hosting this meeting.

At this occasion, I would also like to pay our respect to experts who have made a great deal scientific research work to collect Pollock stock data in the Convention Area.

It is third annual conference that can provide a good opportunity for all member states to discuss the issues in relation to assessment of status of Pollock resources and management in the Central Bering Sea. According to the results of trial fishing, we shall discuss whether the fishing operation could be resumed in the Convention area next year. In fact, what we have done in these years is making preparations when the fishing is re-started.

As we are aware, the Central Bering Sea plays the significant role in various state's fishing operations, therefore, I believe that the fishermen of all member states are expecting not only the operation to resume but also consensus agreement to be made on law enforcement and scientific data

collection of Pollock resources.

In these recent years, the regulations of management have been improved under the close cooperation between all member states for the purpose of conservation and management of Pollock stocks. China will continue make positive contributions in this aspect. We are very pleased to see that progress have been made on some issues under the joint effort of all parties although some such as INQ and AHL are still remained. To resolve these differences should depend on the principles of effective cooperation and scientific evidence rather than other ones. It is our hope that more cooperation and progress be made during the next few days to establish a sound management system for the rational utilization of Pollock resources.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I extend my appreciation again to you for your excellent coordination and arrangement for the meeting, and highly expect fruitful outcomes during the meeting.
Thank you.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES
IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

NOVEMBER 30
TOKYO, JAPAN

OPENING STATEMENT
THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to participate in the third annual Conference. On behalf of the Korean delegation, I would like to thank the Government of Japan for organizing and hosting this Conference.

For the last several years, the world community has been busy with fisheries matters. Since the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea came into force in November of 1994, several major international arrangements have been introduced to promote sustainable use of fisheries resources. In particular, the UN Implementing Agreement was adopted in August of 1995, further strengthening conservation and management efforts pertaining to straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, and this was followed by the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, adopted by FAO in October of 1995, to provide comprehensive guidelines for responsible fisheries.

You may recall that UN Implementing Agreement notes that coastal and fishing states shall cooperate to ensure effective conservation and management of fish stocks.

In this regard, this Convention has played an important role in conserving and managing pollock resources in the Central Bering Sea through many activities undertaken since the Convention came into force in December of 1995.

The Bering Sea has been very important fishing ground to Korea. Republic of Korea made every effort for the conservation and management of pollock resources since fishing activities were suspended in 1993. In particular, Korea has carried out scientific survey on the pollock resources since fishing activities were suspended in 1993. In particular, Korea has carried out scientific survey next year with newly built research vessel equipped with modernized facilities.

We are aware that results of scientific research show difficulties in reopening of fishing activities next year that is consistent with the Part 1 (d) of the Annex of the Convention. However, Korean government is under severe pressure from the fishing communities that have difficulties in accepting the fact that the pollock resources have not recovered in spite of a five-years of moratorium on fishing. To ease the concerns of the fishermen, Korea would like the member state to consider allocation of token AHL and INQ in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention. This will address the fishermen's concern, even if the amount may be too small to make fishing commercially viable.

The Korean government is willing to work closely with the member states and will actively participate in the regional efforts for conservation and management of Pollock resources.

Mr. Chairman,

Korean delegation look forward to active discussion in the spirit of cooperation. Thank you.

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES
IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

NOVEMBER 30
TOKYO, JAPAN

OPENING STATEMENT
THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a great honor for me to participate in the Third Annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention of the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea. On behalf of the Polish delegation, I would like to express our gratitude to Government of Japan for organizing and hosting this Meeting.

Let me briefly outline the importance of the Central Bering Sea as fishery area for Poland. The economical conditions of that part of Polish fishing industry which depends on the North Pacific area fish stocks is getting worse year by year, to certain extent as a consequence of the closure of the Central Bering Sea fishery. This makes that the issue of proper conservation and management of pollock stock in the Central Bering Sea is the matter of important dialogue between Polish government and Polish fishermen. Two months ago the Scientific and Technical Committee met in Seattle and now I would like to pay high tribute to the participants in the meeting which has been observed in Poland as an important and progressive event in frame of our Convention. Now at the opening phase of Third Annual Conference, Poland hopes for further progress in course of the its meeting.

For the fishermen the progress means that their expectations will be

satisfied after 6 years of suspended fishery. To make it really a constructively run deliberation on AHL determination and other pending issues is needed. In the name of Polish delegation I would like to express out the hope of coming to fruitful conclusions at the end of the Conference.

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES
IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

NOVEMBER 30
TOKYO, JAPAN

OPENING STATEMENT
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Distinguished Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
It is a great honor for the delegation of Russia to participate in the Third Annual Conference of the signatory states to the Convention on Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea.

We are grateful to the government of Japan for the excellent organization of the Conference, and for the great effort to generate a system of pollock stock management for the Central Bering Sea.

The Bering Sea is one of the major fishing areas of Russia. We are making great effort to conserve the stocks of pollock in the EEZ of Russia. Vessels equipped with large mesh trawls only were allowed to the fishery in 1998. This contributed to conservation of juvenile pollock.

In recent years, we got a better understanding of the process occurring within the stocks of pollock. Yet we are still far from knowing when feeding concentrations of pollock would appear in the Aleutian Basin. The two recent abnormal years when essential changes in the ecosystem of Bering Sea occurred convinced us of this.

We hope that our cooperative work at the Third Conference will be productive, and we shall make every effort to draw up a most effective system for pollock stock management in the Central Bering Sea.

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES
IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

NOVEMBER 30
TOKYO, JAPAN

OPENING STATEMENT
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is our great pleasure to be here in Tokyo for the Third Annual Conference of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea.

All parties have a vested interest in the recovery of pollock stocks in the Central Bering Sea as illustrated by six years of suspended fishing for pollock in the Convention Area.

Your fishermen, as well as ours, await the opportunity to, once again, fish for pollock in the Central Bering Sea. It is evident that all Parties have worked cooperatively these past few years to establish a management and enforcement regime, as well as, a scientific process to better determine the status of the pollock stocks and ascertain why recovery of pollock stocks in the Central Bering Sea have not occurred. We, like you, share the obvious concern that there remain more questions than answers about the potential cause(s) of the pollock decline and the measures necessary to answer their sustainability.

As we indicated last year, scientists from the United States and other Contracting Parties have observed changes in the marine environment

which may contribute to the lack of recovery of pollock in the Convention Area. In the U.S. domestic fishery , we are anticipating significant changes which may , in all probability, result in lower harvests of pollock.

Nevertheless, we must continue our important work and make progress on those issues which remain to be resolved.

Mr. Chairman, we thank the Japanese Government for hosting this Third Annual Conference and may I introduce the United States delegation.

Thank you.

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES
IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

NOVEMBER 30
TOKYO, JAPAN

OPENING STATEMENT
JAPAN

On behalf of the Japanese delegation I wish to join our Chairman in extending cordial welcome to all the delegations participating the third Annual conference.

Fishery has been suspended in the Central Bering Sea since 1992 to restore pollock resources. However, five years have elapsed and resources still don't show a clear sign of recovery. Such situation may arouse the question of whether simply maintaining fishery suspension could restore those stocks or not.

As to fluctuation a restoration of fishery stocks, scope of our survey is still limited relative to the vast area of the ocean where those stocks are distributed. Furthermore, a valid hypothesis on stock structure of pollock in the entire Bering Sea is yet to be verified and the question of what are the critical factors for stock recovery needs to be further investigated.

In the meantime, in the U.S., the Magnason Act was revised, followed by enactment of the Stevens Act, to introduce higher level of fishery management. We are deeply interested in whether the changes in management implemented in the waters adjacent to the high seas could affect the stock status of pollock in the Central Bering Sea.

At the same time in the U.S., some suggest sea lions feeding on pollock and declining pollock population leading to reduction of sea lion population. In fact, ICES and NAFO already started consideration on fishery management based on food chain concept and we believe studies on the Bering Basin in its entirety are necessary in our forum as well. In this respect, we should recall that the Kyoto Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the international conference jointly organized by FAO and Japan in December, 1995, calls for reinforcement of ecosystem oriented scientific base under collaboration with regional management organizations.

As a fish consuming nation, Japan has been utilizing pollock resources in variety of ways. Therefore, we strongly hope for early recovery of stocks not only as a fishing country but also as a consuming nation. I earnestly hope that participating delegations would be engaged in serious discussion consolidating their wisdom in order to realize restoration of pollock resources and its sustainable and stable use as early as possible. Thank you.

Now let me introduce the members of the Japanese delegation. For your information, pursuant to reorganization of Regional Fisheries Research Laboratories, studies on the North Pacific ground fish were transferred from the National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries to Hokkaido National fisheries Institute.

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES
IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 3, 4
TOKYO, JAPAN

DELEGATION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

(Head of the Delegation)	
Mr.Xin Deli	Chief,Division of Distant Water Fishery, Bereau of Fisheries , Ministry of Agriculture
Mr.Liu Quianfei	Official , Division of International Cooperation, Bereau of Fisheries , Ministry of Agriculture
Mr. Zhou Maoliang	Deputy General-Manager, Shanghai Deep Sea Fisheries Co.

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES
IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 3, 4
TOKYO, JAPAN

DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr. Chong Guk Park (Head)	Maritime Affair and Fishery Attaché Embassy of the Republic of Korea Tokyo, Japan
Mr. Joon Suk Kang	Deputy Director International Organization Office Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MOMAF)
Mr. Won Seok Yang	Senior Fishery Scientist Deep-Sea Resources Division National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI)
Mr. Tae Won Kim	Deputy Manager Trawl Fishery Dep. Korean Deep Sea fisheries Association

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES
IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 3, 4
TOKYO, JAPAN

DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND

(Head of Delegation)	
Mr. Jerzy Janusz	Sea Fisheries Institute - Gdynia
Ms. Anna Radomska	Ministry of Transport And Maritime Economy Chief Expert, Maritime Administration Shipping And Fisheries Department, Warsaw
Mr. Stanislaw Kasperk	Representative of Polish Far Seas Fishing Companies, Szczecin
Andrzel Kaczmarek	Commercial Counselor Embassy of Poland, Tokyo
Zbigniew Nonas	Commercial Attaché Embassy of Poland, Tokyo

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES
IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 3, 4
TOKYO, JAPAN

DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Dr. B.Kotenev	Head of Delegation, Director of VNIRO
Mr. V.Toloknev	Attaché of Fisheries, Embassy of Russian Federation
Mr. I. Mikhno	Department of Fisheries of the Russian Federation
Mr. S. Safronov	Kamchatka Fishery Enforcement Service (Kamchatrybvod)
Mr. E.Kabanov	Department of Fisheries of Kamchatka region
Mr. B.Sharapov	Far Eastern Fishery Company (Dalryba)
Dr. O.Zolotov	Kamchatka Fisheries Research Institute
Dr. M. Stepanenko	Pacific Fisheries Research Institute
Dr. P. Balykin	Kamchatka Fisheries Research Institute
Mr. V. Nikolaev	Fisheries Representative of Russia to the Republic of Korea
Mr. Yu. Riazantsev	VNIRO Fisheries Research Institute

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES
IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 3, 4
TOKYO, JAPAN

DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

(Head of the Delegation)	
Dr. Richard Marasco	National Marine Fisheries Service
Mr. William Penn Hines	National Marine Fisheries Service
Mr. David Flannagan	National Marine Fisheries Service
Dr. Gary Loh-Lee Low	National Marine Fisheries Service
LCDR. Dwight Thomas Mathers	United States Coast Guard
CAPT. J. V. O'shea	United States Coast Guard
Mr. Herbert Stetson Tinkham	United States Department of State
Mr. Neil Williamson	National Marine Fisheries Service
Ms. Dennis Austin	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
Mr. David Benton	Alaska Department of fish and Game
Mr. Francine Bennis	Alaska Marine Conservation Council

Mr. Alvin Richard Burch	Alaska Draggers Association
Mr. Richard Lauber	Chairman, North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
Mr. Henry Michell	Tyson's Seafood Group
Mr. Hazel Nelson	Becharoff Corporation
Ms. Anne Hollowed	National Marine Fisheries Service
Mr.Edward W. Kloth, Jr.	Regional Attache for Oceans and Natural Resources Embassy of the United States in Tokyo
Mr.Yoshio Nasaka	Embassy of the United States in Tokyo

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES
IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 3, 4
TOKYO, JAPAN

DELEGATION OF JAPAN

Mr. Yasuo Takase	Director, Fishery Division Economic Affairs Bureau Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Masayuki Komatsu	Director for International Negotiations Fisheries Agency
Dr. Tokimasa Kobayashi	Head Sub-arctic Fisheries Resources Division Hokkaido National Fisheries Research Institute Fisheries Agency, Kushiro
Dr. Akira Nishimura	Sub-arctic Fisheries Resources Division Hokkaido National Fisheries Research Institute Fisheries Agency, Kushiro
Mr. Yoshimi Takao	Fisheries Information Science Division National Research Institute of Fisheries Engineering Fisheries Agency, Hasaki
Mr.Hiroshi Mitsuya	Assistant Director, Fishery Division Economic Affairs Bureau Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Mr. Kiyoshi Katsuyama	Deputy Director International Affairs Division Fisheries Policy Planning Department Fisheries Agency
Mr. Ichiro Kanto	Deputy Director International Affairs Division Fisheries Policy Planning Department Fisheries Agency
Mr. Kanemaru Ijuin	Deputy Director Far Seas Fisheries Division Resources Management Department Fisheries Agency
Mr. Masatake Kato	Deputy Director Resources and Environment Research Division Resources Development Department Fisheries Agency
Mr. Shoichi Takayama	Far Seas Fisheries Division Resources Management Department Fisheries Agency
Mr. Yoshitsugu Shikada	Resources and Environment Research Division Resources Development Department Fisheries Agency
Mr. Noriaki Takagi	Executive Secretary Japan Deep Sea Trawlers Association
Mr. Tetsuo Inoue	Councilor Japan Deep Sea Trawlers Association
Mr. Munemoto Nakayama	Japan Deep Sea Trawlers Association
Mr. Ryouji Kubo	Japan Deep Sea Trawlers Association

Mr. Tetsuhiko Tanaka	Executive Director National Federation of Medium Trawlers
Mr. Hajime Onishi	Executive Secretary National Federation of Medium Trawlers

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES
IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 3, 4
TOKYO, JAPAN

Agenda
Annual Conference

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Opening Statements and introductions
3. Elections
   A. Chairperson
   B. Vice-Chairperson
   C. Rapporteur
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Report of the Scientific and Technical Committee
6. Action Items:
   A. The Review of Scientific Data and Conservation Measures of the Coastal States related to Pollock Fishing in the Central Bering Sea
   B. The Establishment of a Plan of Work for the Scientific and Technical Committee
   C. The Adoption of Appropriate Conservation and Management Measures Based Upon the Advice of the Scientific and Technical (S&D)Committee
   D. The Review of Trial Fishing During 1997-98
   E. The Establishment of the Allowable Harvest Level
   F. The Establishment of the Individual National Quotas

G. The Establishment of the Terms and Conditions for Trial Fishing in 1999

H. The Reception of Reports relating to Measures taken to investigate and penalize Violations of the Convention

I. The Consideration of Matters related to the Conservation and Management of Living Marine Resources other than Pollock in The Convention Area

J. Meeting Observers

7. Fourth Annual Conference
   A. Time and Location
   B. Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson
8. Other Business
9. Closing Statements
10. Adjournment

Cruise plan of Japan-U.S. Cooperative Survey: Echo Integration and Mid-water Trawl Survey of Pelagic Walleye Pollock in the Southeastern Bering Sea

Fisheries Agency of Japan
Hokkaido National Fisheries Research Institute
National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries

Dec. 1998

1. Institution

Hokkaido National Fisheries Research Institute (HNF)
116, Katurakoi, Kushiro, Hokkaido, 085-0802, Japan
Tel: 81-154-91-9136
Fax: 81-154-91-9355

National Research Institute of Fisheries Engineering (NRIFE)
Ebidai, Hazaki, Kashima, Ibaragi, 314-04, Japan
Tel: 81-479-44-4961
Fax: 81-479-44-1875

Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC)
7600, Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115

2. Cruise description and objectives

Hokkaido National Fisheries Research Institute (HNF) and National Research Institute of Fisheries Engineering (NRIFE) will conduct an echo integration mid-water trawl survey of walleye pollock (*Theragra chalcogramma*) in the southeastern Bering Sea aboard the R/V *Kaiyo Maru* of the Fisheries Agency of Japan. In this area, Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC: MACE) has conducted annual survey since 1989 by the NOAA ship *Miller Freeman*. In 1999, however, AFSC is not conducting this survey because the Miller Freeman is not available for repairing. The 1999 *Kaiyo Maru* survey is a cooperative work between HNF/NRIFE and AFSC. The main survey would run from late January to mid-March in 1999, and would cover the area historically surveyed by the *Miller Freeman*. In order to get the accurate assessment of the Area, it is required that the Kaiyo Maru is allowed to conduct trawl survey inside 3-mile of the coast. The scientific information obtained from this survey will be very important for maintaining time series information in the spawning area of the Aleutian

Basin pelagic walleye pollock. Detailed survey plan is being discussed between the institutions and all data and information will be exchanged freely among the different agencies. The survey results will be used to determine biomass in the Specific Area that is defined in the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea.

The primary objectives of the survey are:

1) To determine the geographical distributions of the walleye pollock in the southeastern Aleutian Basin.
2) To collect echo integration data to determine the biomass of walleye pollock in the area.
3) To collect biological information on walleye pollock in the basin and shelf area.
4) To collect the information on the oceanographic and biological environments during the winter in the area.

This survey cruise plan was submitted to the Scientific and Technical Committee meeting for the Convention in the September, and the importance of this survey cruise was confirmed.

3. Research Vessel

Ship name:	*Kaiyo Maru* (Fisheries Agency of Japan, Tokyo)
Type:	Stern trawler
Length:	93.01 meters
Tonnage:	2,630 tons
Hull color:	White
Draft:	6.0 meters
Radio call sign:	JNZL

4. Crew and researchers on board

1) Crew: Captain Masaru Tanabe and 45 crew

2) Japanese Researchers

Preliminary survey

Akira Nishimura, Hokkaido National Fisheries Research Institute (HNF)

Takashi Yanagimoto, HNF

Yoshimi Takao, National Research Institute of Fisheries Engineering (NRIFE)

Tsuyoshi Okumura, NRIFE

Main survey

Japanese researchers

Akira Nishimura, HNF, (Chief scientist; biology)

Takashi Yanagimoto, HNF, (Acoustic and oceanography)

Yoshimi Takao, NRIFE, NRIFE (Acoustic)

Assistant researchers

Seiji Katakura, Hokkaido Tokai University, (Biology and acoustic)

Kyoko Mori, (Oceanography and acoustic)

Fuma Tanaka, (Biology and Oceanography)

Kengo Nakanishi, (Acoustic)

Foreign researchers

Taina Honkalehto, Alaska Fisheries Science Center (U.S.A.)

Neal Williamson, Alaska Fisheries Science Center (U.S.A.)

5. Vessel Itinerary

Preliminary survey (in the adjacent waters of Tokyo)

Dec. 15, 1998	leave Tokyo
Dec. 16-21	Acoustic system calibration and noise measurements
Dec. 21	arrive Tokyo

Main survey (in the Bering Sea)

Jan. 21, 1999	leave Tokyo
Jan. 30-31 (U. S. date)	System calibration in the Captain's Bay of Unalaska Is.
Feb. 1-9	Leg 1 survey
Feb. 12	arrive Kodiak
Feb. 16	leave Kodiak
Feb. 19-20	System calibration in the Captain's Bay of Unalaska Is.
Feb. 21-Mar. 4	Leg 2 survey
Mar. 12 (Japanese date)	arrive Kushiro
Mar. 16	leave Kushiro
Mar. 19	arrive Tokyo; end of cruise

6. Research area

Southeastern part of the Aleutian Basin, and southern part of the eastern Bering Sea shelf

area (Fig. 1). All these survey areas are included in the U.S. EEZ.

Acoustic system calibration and pollock sampling by hook and line will be carried out in the Captain's Bay of Unalaska Island within 3 miles zone. We also plan to conduct our survey in the Specific Area (Bogoslof area) that is defined by the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea. This survey would cover the area historically surveyed by the *Miller Freeman*, and for the accurate assessment it is very important to survey inside 3-mile of coast of Aleutian Islands.

7. Operational plan

The EIMWT survey will be conducted 24hours per day in each leg. Acoustic data will be collected continuously along a transect with KJ2000 echo integration system (Kaijyo). Transect spacing is designed to be 10 nmi in leg 1, and in leg 2 it may be reduced to 5 nmi where fish aggregation will be observed. Endpoints of each transects will be decided when the fish sign disappears. Ship speed is expected to average 10 knots in favorable weather. Trawl hauls will be conducted when fish echo sign is observed. An average of 1 or 2 trawl hauls per day is anticipated. Midwater trawl hauls will be made to identify echo sign and obtain biological data of the fish. Hauling duration will be kept to a minimum extent to which adequate biological samples are obtained. One CTD cast per day will be carried out to collect the oceanographic data. At the CTD station, water sample will be collected from the selected depths. At the same time, plankton sampling will be conducted by using NORPAC net and ORI net. At the selected stations, XBT/XCTD cast will be carried out to collect the water temperature profiles.

If time permits, live pollock will be collected by hook and line at selected stations. The live pollock will be reared in a tank for a half day, and will be released with acoustic trajectory system attached in order to collect the migratory information.

A standard sphere calibration of the acoustic systems will be conducted in the Captain's Bay at the beginning of each leg. This requires the vessel to be anchored at bow and stern. During this calibration, live pollock will be collected by hook and line, and the pollock will be frozen after one day of keeping in a tank. The morphological characteristic of the swim bladder will be studied with the relation to the target strength of the fish.

If time permits, one or two trawl hauls will be conducted in the shelf area. Biological characteristics of the fish from basin and shelf areas will be compared (including genetic characteristics).

8. Major scientific equipment

Acoustic equipment

Kaijo KJ2000

Simrad EK500

ADCP (Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers)

Furuno Current measurement system

Biological sampling equipment

Nichimou Spider Trawl Net

NORPAC net

ORI net

Hook and line

Oceanographic equipment

Seabird CTD system

XBT/XCTD launcher and recorder

EPCS (Electronics Plankton Counting and Sizing System)

NOAA HRPT

9. Research items

1) Preliminary survey (Dec. 15-21, 1998)

- Operation check of the acoustic systems
- Calibration of transmitter and receiver system
- Noise measurements
- Determination of standard parameters for acoustic systems
- Calibration between two systems (KJ2000 and EK500)

2)Main survey (Jan. 21-Mar. 19, 1999)

① Acoustic survey

- Calibration of acoustic system
- Target strength estimation by split-beam method
- Abundance estimation of walleye pollock by echo integration
- Inter-system calibration between KJ2000 and EK500
- Analysis of relationship between behavior of walleye pollock and echo strength

②Midwater trawl survey

- Weight and number measurement of catch by species
- Body length, weight measurement and collecting biological data from gonad, otolith,

stomach, and DNA sample.

·Collection of frozen samples of walleye pollock.

③Biological sampling

·At selected stations, adult pollock will be collected by hook and line.

·Double NORPAC nets (0.154 and 0.333 mm mesh size) sampling

·ORI net hauls for pollock eggs and plankton sampling

·Continuous counting of zooplankton and monitoring of surface environment by EPCS

④Oceanographic observation

·CTD casts and water sampling will be conducted at selected stations.

·Vertical profile of water temperature will be observed by XBT/XCTD system.

·Collection of satellite data (NOAA HRPT)

10. Other measurements and observation on weather and sea conditions will be recorded.

Appendix 5

MEASURES ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA

TRIAL FISHING FOR POLLOCK IN 1999

Final 4 December 1998

1. Taking into account the report of the Scientific and Technical Committee on the status of pollock resources in the Aleutian Basin, the Third Annual Conference decided, as follows:

1.1. To establish the 1999 Allowable Harvest Level (AHL) at zero; and

1.2. To authorize trial fishing in the Convention Area.

2. The Annual Conference establishes for 1999 the following terms and conditions for such operations:

No more than two vessels from each Party to the Convention at any time may conduct trial fishing for pollock in the Convention Area. Information on the vessels that will engage in the trial fishing will be provided to all Parties at least one month prior to commencement of trial fishing. Such information will include vessel name, vessel type, vessel's international radio call sign (IRCS), vessel's satellite transmitter number, and the area and time of the trial fishing. Parties conducting trial fishing will notify the other Parties regarding the schedule of such trial fishing with sufficient notice to facilitate the embarkation and disembarkation of observers. Vessels engaged in trial fishing will have Scientific Observers of the flag-State on board and will accept at least one Scientific Observer of other Parties to the Convention in accordance with arrangements to be made between the flag-State of the vessel and the other Parties. All provisions of the Convention and all measures adopted by the Annual Conference regarding boardings and inspections, vessel monitoring systems, entry and transshipment notifications, safe boarding ladder standards, and shipboard logs and records will govern such trial fishing. Prior to the Fourth Annual Conference, Parties conducting trial fishing will submit to the other Parties a report of the trial fishing which provides the type of catch and distribution data as specified in the Central Bering Sea Observer Program Manual.